

Application No.: 10/630,098

Docket No. 03-001US

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

No claim amendments are made herein. The following listing of the claims is presented for the convenience of the Examiner.

1. (Previously Presented) A lead, comprising:
 - a lead body having a proximal end and a distal end;
 - a plurality of connectors positioned proximate the proximal end;
 - a plurality of electrodes positioned proximate the distal end;
 - a plurality of conductors extending through the lead body with each conductor electrically connecting at least one connector with at least one electrode; and
 - a plurality of expansion sections longitudinally disposed along the lead body between the plurality of connectors and the plurality of electrodes, wherein an amount of slack for each conductor is contained with each expansion section of the plurality of expansion sections;

wherein the lead body and the conductors possess physical characteristics such that, upon application of a stretching force to the lead body, a diameter of the lead body in one or several expansion sections is reduced and the slack for each conductor in one or several expansion sections is at least partially taken up so as to allow the distance between the plurality of connectors and plurality of electrodes to be increased.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the diameter of each expansion section is at least about two times greater than a diameter of an adjacent portion.
5. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 1 wherein adjacent expansion sections are spaced apart less than one inch.

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6. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the plurality of expansion sections form respective expansion rings around the lead body.

7. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 6 wherein the longitudinal paths of the plurality of conductors within the plurality of expansion sections substantially conform to the shape of the respective expansion rings.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 1 wherein each expansion section is bubble-shaped.

11-21. (Cancelled)

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22. (Previously Presented) A system for stimulating a portion of a body, the system comprising:

a source for generating a stimulus; and

an implantable lead for receiving the stimulus from the source, the implantable lead comprising,

a lead body having a proximal end and a distal end,

a plurality of connectors positioned proximate the proximal end,

a plurality of electrodes positioned proximate the distal end,

a plurality of conductors extending through the lead body with each conductor electrically connecting at least one connector with at least one electrode; and

a plurality of expansion sections longitudinally disposed along the lead body between the plurality of connectors and the plurality of electrodes, wherein an amount of slack for each conductor is contained with each expansion section of the plurality of expansion sections;

wherein the lead body and the conductors possess physical characteristics such that, upon application of a stretching force to the lead body, a diameter of the lead body in one or several expansion sections is reduced and the slack for each conductor in one or several expansion sections is at least partially taken up so as to allow the distance between the plurality of connectors and plurality of electrodes to be increased.

23. (Original) The system in accordance with Claim 22 further comprising:
a controller operable for communicating with the source and controlling the source.

24. (Original) The system in accordance with Claim 22 wherein the source comprises an RF receiver.

25. (Original) The system in accordance with Claim 22 wherein the source comprises an implantable pulse generator.

26. (Cancelled)

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27. (Previously Presented) The system in accordance with claim 22 wherein the lead body is formed of a continuous body of insulative material enclosing the plurality of conductors, and the lead body has an increased diameter of insulative material for each expansion section compared to adjacent sections.

28. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with claim 1 wherein the lead body is formed of a continuous body of insulative material enclosing the plurality of conductors, and the lead body has an increased diameter of insulative material for each expansion section compared to adjacent sections.

29. (Previously Presented) A lead, comprising:
a lead body having a proximal end and a distal end;
a plurality of electrodes positioned proximate the distal end;
a plurality of conductors extending through the lead body with each conductor electrically connecting to at least one electrode; and
a plurality of expansion sections longitudinally disposed along the lead body between the distal and proximal ends, wherein an amount of slack for each conductor is contained with each expansion section of the plurality of expansion sections;
wherein the lead body and the conductors possess physical characteristics such that, upon application of a stretching force to the lead body, a diameter of the lead body in one or several expansion sections is reduced and the slack for each conductor in one or several expansion sections is at least partially taken up so as to allow the distance between the plurality of electrodes and the proximal end to be increased.

30. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 29 wherein the diameter of each expansion section is at least about two times greater than a diameter of an adjacent portion.

31. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 29 wherein adjacent expansion sections are spaced apart less than one inch.

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32. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 29 wherein the plurality of expansion sections form respective expansion rings around the lead body.

33. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 32 wherein the longitudinal paths of the plurality of conductors within the plurality of expansion sections substantially conform to the shape of the respective expansion rings.

34. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with Claim 29 wherein each expansion section is bubble-shaped.

35. (Previously Presented) The lead in accordance with claim 29 wherein the lead body is formed of a continuous body of insulative material enclosing the plurality of conductors, and the lead body has an increased diameter of insulative material for each expansion section compared to adjacent sections.